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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of

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Appln. No.: 10/003,415

TC 170

Group Art Unit: Not yet designated

Confirmation No.: Not yet designated

Examiner: Not yet designated

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ROOM

For: POWDERS-AFFIXED NONWOVEN FABRIC, PROCESS FOR MANUFACTURING SAME, AND SHEET MATERIAL CONTAINING SAME

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification is changed as follows:

Page 5, second full paragraph:

In accordance with the present invention, there is also provided a process for manufacturing a sheet material comprising the steps of:

ejecting aggregates of fine short fibers having a fiber diameter of 4 μ m or less and a fiber length of 3 mm or less, or a group of the aggregates, and/or mechanically dividable fibers capable of generating fine short fibers having a fiber diameter of 4 μ m or less and a fiber length of 3 mm or less, or aggregates of the mechanically dividable fibers, together with powder materials, from a nozzle into a gas by an action of a compressed gas, to thereby divide the aggregates of the fine

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